

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02 AF-10 EA-11 IO-14

/215 R

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APPROVED BY EB/ORF/ICD:JJINGERSOLL

ARA/CAR:JRBURKE:GBHIGH

EB/ICD/TRP:TTTURQMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092686

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: SUGAR: WEST INDIES QUOTA UNDER PROPOSED SUGAR
LEGISLATION

1. SEPTTEL CONTAINS PROPOSAL OF HOUSE AGRICULTURE SUB-
COMMITTEE ON QUOTAS FOR FOREIGN SUGAR SUPPLIERS. DEPT IS
AWARE THAT 131,550 SHORT TONS PROPOSED FOR WEST INDIES
(2.52 OF TOTAL NON-FIXED QUOTAS; SEE SEPTTEL) IS CONSIDERA-
BLY LESS THAN COUNTRIES CONCERNED HAD HOPED FOR AND, PER-
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HAPS, EXPECTED. SUBCOMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL, BASED ON PERFOR-

MANCE, DID GIVE CREDIT FOR WEST INDIES FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED SHIPMENTS IN 1974. THESE SHIPMENTS, IN EFFECT, PROVIDED SOME OFFSET TO VERY LARGE SHORTFALL IN 1973.

2. THROUGH TESTIMONY OF LOBBYIST AND INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS AWARE OF CHANGE IN MARKET PRIORITIES BY CARICOM GOVERNMENTS. THESE INPUTS DID HAVE FAVORABLE IMPACT BY SOFTENING SOMEWHAT STRICT PERFORMANCE CRITERIA USED BY SUBCOMMITTEE. SUBCOMMITTEE DECISION WAS APPARENTLY BASED LARGELY ON FACT THAT MOST OTHER SUPPLIERS MET FULL QUOTAS IN U.S. EVERY YEAR.

3. AS STATED SEPTEL, LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IS FAR FROM OVER, AND THERE AT LEAST SMALL POSSIBILITY THAT FINAL RESULTS WILL BE DIFFERENT. IN MEANTIME, AS APPROPRIATE, POSTS SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT PROPOSED QUOTA IS BASED ON PERFORMANCE RECORD

AND IS IN NO WAY BASED ON POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

4. FOR LONDON: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY UK REACTION TO PROPOSED QUOTA AND ANY POSSIBLE EFFECT ON EC SUGAR POLICY AFTER EXPIRATION COMMONWEALTH SUGAR AGREEMENT. RUSH

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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